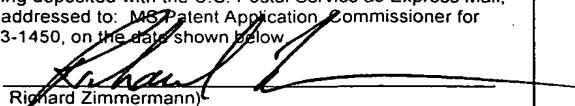


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV 323775055 US, in an envelope addressed to: MS Patent Application Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: January 26, 2004

Signature:


Richard Zimmermann

Docket No.: 29498/30004A
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent

Application of: Michael D. Hillman, et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned

Filed: January 26, 2004 (Herewith) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: CORDLESS BLIND

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

MS Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified U.S. patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 11 of this paper.